

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH
(through video conferencing)**

CRM-M-36569-2020
Decided on : 23.02.2021

Sukhmander Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present : Mr. Rajesh Bhatheja, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Luvinder Sofat, AAG, Punjab.

Manjari Nehru Kaul, J.

Instant petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.PC for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.88 dated 11.08.2020 registered under Sections 384, 419, 34 IPC, 1860 and Section 13(2) of PC Act at Police Station Kot Ise Khan District Moga.

Learned counsel submits that from a perusal of the FIR it is evident that highly improbable and unnatural version has been brought forth by the complainant that the petitioner while posing as an Excise Inspector snatched Rs.800/- from the dashboard of the truck which was being driven by the complainant. It has further been submitted that similarly situated co-accused ASI Major Singh has since been extended the concession of bail vide order dated 10.11.2020 by this Court.

Per contra, learned State counsel while opposing the prayer of learned counsel for the petitioner on instructions from ASI Manjit Singh has

apprised the Court that challan stands presented and charges are likely to be framed in the near future.

Heard.

In view of the submissions made by learned counsel and the fact that the petitioner has been in custody since 12.08.2020, the trial is unlikely to conclude in the near future more so in the wake of outbreak of pandemic Covid-19. Hence, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is admitted to bail to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate. However, it is made clear that anything observed hereinabove shall not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

23.02.2021

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Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable :	Yes/No